

2231 DISTANCE LEARNING SCHOOLS

2231 Approval of Distance Learning Schools

2232 Statutory Authority: 16 VSA Section 166 (b) (6)

2233 Definition

A “Distance Learning School” means an independent school which offers a program of elementary or secondary education through correspondence, electronic mail, satellite communication or other means and which, because of its structure, does not meet some or all the rules of the State Board for approved independent schools.

2234 Procedures and standards

The distance learning school shall meet the procedures and standards set forth in rules 2220-2227, above, which because of its structure can be applied, and the following rules:

2234.1 The distance learning school’s business and administrative offices are located in Vermont and are sufficient to meet the needs of the school.

2234.2 The distance learning school follows Vermont requirements for incorporation pursuant to Titles 11, 11A, and 11B of Vermont Statutes Annotated.

2234.3 The distance learning school offers an educational program which is developed and assessed by staff who are other than the parent of the students and who are either employed by the school or under contract with the school.

2234.4 The distance learning school has policies and procedures to:

- (1) Enroll students who reasonably can be expected to benefit from the instruction offered by the program, and
- (2) Measure student progress to ensure that students continue to benefit from such instruction.

2234.5 The distance learning school has policies and procedures to answer student and parent inquiries about programs and services promptly and satisfactorily and to answer specific student academic inquiries in a timely and beneficial way.

2234.6 The distance learning school has policies and procedures for informing students and parents of academic progress on a regular basis.

2234.7 Tuition

2234.7.1 Tuition policies, including tuition collection practices, are written, clear, and provided to parents in advance of enrollment.

2234.7.2 The distance learning school has clear written policies on refunds of tuition payments for circumstances in which students choose not to or are unable to complete the program of instruction.

2234.8 In the event that the school closes, the distance learning school has policies for:

- (1) tuition adjustment or refund, and
- (2) Preservation and release of student records.